

The United Automobile Worker

INTERNATIONAL UNION, UNITED AUTOMOBILE, AIRCRAFT AND AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENT WORKERS OF AMERICA — U.A.W.-C.I.O.

VOL. 15, NO. 4

Entered as 2nd Class Matter, Indianapolis, Indiana

APRIL, 1951

Printed in U. S. A.



*Convention Points Way to Greater Gains;
Maps Militant, Progressive Program;
Increases Dues to Put Program Into Action*

THE CONVENTION



Above is the Convention platform with its huge backdrop. In the foreground is a portion of the biggest gathering of UAW delegates in the Union's history.

Tools to make greater gains . . .

Convention Meets Responsibility; Votes to Build a Stronger Union

Dues Adjusted to \$2.50; Assessments Are Banned

CLEVELAND—Delegates representing more than a million and a quarter UAW-CIO members told the world here early this month that they wanted a 1951 model Union capable of meeting 1951 problems.

And, by a huge majority, they gave the Union the means to tool up and produce the 1951-52 job.

Brushing aside the feeble and disorganized opposition, which had almost as many positions as it had members in its political caucus, the overwhelming majority of the delegates amended the UAW-CIO Constitution to provide for dues of \$2.50 per month—still among the lowest of major unions in America.

ASSESSMENTS OUT

Upon recommendation of the International officers and the Convention Constitution Committee, the delegates then voted to ban all International assessments. For the great majority, this meant that no more would be paid in 1951 than in 1950, when there was a series of 12 weekly \$1 assessments.

The Convention also adopted, with little dissent, the recommendation allocation of dues between local and International (see table on this page).

MAZEY GIVES FACTS

Secretary-Treasurer Emil Mazey, leading off debate on the issue, cited item-by-item increased operating costs of the Union. Pointing out that the \$1.50 dues had been set by the 1946 Convention, Mazey said, "In order to regain the purchasing power that our \$1.50 had in 1946, it would be necessary for us to raise our dues to \$2.12, just to regain that lost purchasing power."

Delegate Florence Peterson of Local 19, Grand Rapids, pinpointed one of the major problems on the minds of thoughtful and responsible delegates, "In our city of Grand Rapids," she said, "there are 68 unorganized plants—averaging less than 100 workers per plant. Those plants, paying substandard wages, are taking work away from our organized plants. Our workers are losing out—losing wages that mean bread and butter.

"We feel confident that if the dues increase is granted the job of organizing and servicing will be done."

A delegate representing the minority in the Convention asked during debate that the Constitution Committee take its report back and provide for a referendum vote. Committee Chairman Roy England, Local 200, answered quietly, "We as Committee members are elected delegates to this Convention and we are willing to take our position here."

REUTHER GETS OVATION

President Walter P. Reuther ended debate with a stirring appeal for support of the dues increase. At the close, the thunderous ovation he received from the delegates foretold the outcome of the vote. (A partial text of Reuther's speech is printed on page 6.)

Opponents of the dues increase could muster only 495 delegates in support of a roll call. Convention rules required 700 delegates in support of such a motion. There were more than 2,200 delegates seated.

Reuther had told a press conference on the day before that the vote "to give the Union the tools to do the job" would be brought up before any program was adopted. "There is no use adopting a forward-looking program calling for many things we will not have the resources to do unless the dues amendment is adopted," he said. "We will find out at the very beginning whether we will go ahead and stand still."

The Convention, following the dues vote, then went on to write one of the UAW's typical fighting programs, details of which are carried in stories throughout this issue of the Auto Worker.

THE DUES DEBATE

for:

against:

Delegate England, Local 200—"We consider the needs of our families, and we dig down according to those needs. . . . UAW's opposition is not asleep, and I am afraid if we don't move in we are in danger of being moved out."

* * * * *

Delegate Murphy, Local 600—"Time after time, the membership of Local 600 has demonstrated that they will support this Union, be it in a financial matter or any other matter—if they are given the facts."

* * * * *

Delegate Gerbe, Local 51—"The welfare of my Union must be placed ahead of any personal considerations . . . if that means political suicide, so be it."

* * * * *

Delegate Schultz, Local 248—"My local stands unanimously for a dues increase, as does our entire Council (Allis-Chalmers)—Corporation wide."

* * * * *

Delegate McKay, Local 195—"If we hamstring our International, I believe it is like putting a life-guard on the beach and tying his hands and then screaming to the high heavens why isn't he doing his job."

Delegate Cunningham, Local 7—"The UAW is beginning to disintegrate because it has too much money. . . ."

* * * * *

Delegate Silver, Local 351—" . . . I am not opposed to a dues increase . . . we should vote for a referendum. . . ."

* * * * *

Delegate Pilchowski, Local 409—"I am opposed to the one dollar increase, but I will go along with a compromise."

* * * * *

Delegate Daynes, Local 195—" . . . I am willing to compromise on this question to the extent of a 50-cent increase, but not to the extent of a dollar increase."

* * * * *

Delegate McLogan, Local 809—"The rank and file, if they are told the facts, will accept the dues increase. I believe . . . we should have a referendum vote of the members, and then we will get a dues increase."

* * * * *

Delegate Catton, Local 406—"I can tell you that if I had the facts that have been presented by Brother Reuther, I could have presented them and my membership would go along with them. But . . . I cannot go along with it."

ALLOCATION OF \$2.50 DUES

Table showing allocation of \$2.50 dues: INTERNATIONAL UNION (.95), LOCAL UNION (\$1.15), CITIZENSHIP FUNDS (.10), STRIKE FUNDS (.30), Total (\$2.50). Breakdown includes Auto Worker (.05), Education Fund (.03), Recreation Fund (.01), Fair Practices Fund (.01), CIO Per Capita Tax (.10), General Administrative (.75), Education and Recreation Fund (.03), General Administrative (\$1.12), International Fund (.05), Local Union Fund (.05), International Strike Fund (.25), Local Union Strike Fund (.05).

No International Union Assessments Whatsoever

During 1950, UAW-CIO members paid \$18 dues and \$12 emergency strike assessments which together equal \$2.50 per month.

Highlights of Militant, Progressive Program

GUARANTEED ANNUAL WAGE

Since workers and their families must eat and live by the year, the UAW-CIO is determined that its next major goal shall be the winning of a guaranteed annual wage so that workers will be guaranteed 52 weeks' pay per year.

FOUR WEEKS' VACATION PAY

Most corporation executives get a minimum of four weeks' vacation with pay. It is felt that if executives need four weeks to recuperate, then workers, who do considerably heavier physical work, are also entitled to four weeks' vacation with pay.

\$200 PER MONTH PENSIONS

The UAW-CIO has won guaranteed pensions for more than a million workers and has laid a solid foundation for building higher benefits in the future. We have set as our goal the winning of \$200 per month pensions for every worker in our industry when he is too old to work and too young to die.

FULL HOSPITAL-MEDICAL CARE FOR ENTIRE FAMILY

We have made a good beginning in the field of hospital-medical care. One and one-half million workers and their families are covered by hospital-medical care programs in which from one-half to the full cost is paid by the companies. In the future, we shall press for contract provisions that will provide full hospital-medical care for the worker and his entire family, fully paid for by all the companies.

UAW-CIO NON-PROFIT INSURANCE COMPANY

In the last several years, the UAW-CIO has been able to broaden the insurance coverage for our workers, and we have succeeded in reducing the

rates. Nevertheless, the big insurance companies continue to make millions of dollars of profits out of the insurance protection needed by our members.

The Cleveland Convention unanimously instructed the International Executive Board to make a careful study of the insurance problem and authorized the Executive Board to create a UAW-CIO non-profit insurance company to meet the insurance needs of our members.

PROTECT WAGE STANDARDS AND JOB SECURITY

The UAW-CIO, with a million and a quarter members, is the largest free labor union in the world. No other union has grown as fast as our Union, but our organizational job is still not completed. There are still hundreds of thousands of unorganized workers whose substandard wages and working conditions, if permitted to continue, will jeopardize the wage standards and the job security of the organized workers. As long as unorganized workers receive from 50 to 90 cents per hour less for doing similar work, their substandard wages will threaten the wage standards and the job security of our members.

We must launch a comprehensive organizational campaign to organize competitive shops that are taking work away from organized shops. We must meet the problem of run-away shops. We must tackle the problem of decentralization of big corporations—Ford, General Motors, Chrysler. We must concentrate our organizational work among the unorganized foundries, skilled trades workers, office and engineering personnel, the agricultural implement industry and the expanding aircraft industry.

FOR BETTER WORKING CONDITIONS—AGAINST SPEED-UP

We must strengthen the UAW-CIO Engineering Department and the grievance machinery of our contracts in order to do a better job in the day-to-day work of improving working conditions within the plants in fighting against any attempted speed-up on the part of the companies.

DEFENSE OF OUR WAGE AGREEMENTS; PROTECTION OF COST-OF-LIVING AND ANNUAL WAGE IMPROVEMENT CLAUSES

To date the officers of our Union, by constant vigilance, have blocked attempts in Washington to set aside our cost-of-living escalator clauses and our contract provisions for the annual wage improvement. We must mobilize the full strength of our Union to back up our efforts in Washington to maintain full protection of our cost-of-living escalator clauses and the annual wage improvement provisions.

FOR EFFECTIVE PRICE CONTROL

We must redouble our efforts to win effective price control so that prices can be rolled back and the cost of living stabilized. The present price control law is a complete phony and a fraud upon the American people.

FAIR TAX PROGRAM

The price of freedom has always been high and the members of the UAW-CIO are prepared to pay their fair share of the cost of defending freedom against the threat of Communist tyranny and aggression. We insist, however, that corporations and wealthy families be compelled to pay their proportionate share of the tax load and that the standards of luxury of families that have too much, be reduced before the standards of living of those families who have too little is cut.

FOR CIVIL RIGHTS AND FEPC

The UAW-CIO shall continue to work for the enactment of a civil rights program and FEPC legislation, for we cannot continue to preach democracy while we practice discrimination in all of its ugly forms.

PROGRESSIVE LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM

The UAW-CIO will continue to work with farm, labor and liberal forces to win the earliest possible enactment of a legislative program that reflects the needs of our country and the needs of our people, including repeal of Taft-Hartley Act, housing, rent control, national health bill, federal aid to education and expanded social security.

The best program is of no value unless the Union has the tools necessary to put that program into action. That's why the Convention delegates voted overwhelmingly to provide the Union with the necessary tools by increasing the dues.

FACTS ON THE DUES QUESTION

Q. Why did the Convention delegates vote by better than 80 per cent majority for a one dollar dues increase?

A. After more than four hours of democratic debate, during which every point of view was fully expressed, the Convention delegates overwhelmingly approved the dues adjustment because they realized that the Union could not protect the wage standards and job security of our membership and, at the same time, be in a position to carry forward a program to make further gains unless the Union had better tools to work with.

Q. When was the last dues adjustment made in the UAW-CIO?

A. In March, 1946, at the Atlantic City Convention, dues were increased from \$1 to \$1.50 per month.

Q. How much have UAW-CIO members gained in wages and other economic concessions since the dues adjustment in 1946?

A. Since the 1946 dues adjustment, the average UAW-CIO member has made economic gains equal to 80 cents per hour. UAW members receive 59 cents in wage increases—and 21 cents in other economic gains in the form of hospitalization, insurance benefits, pensions, holiday pay, improved vacations, etc.

Q. If the average UAW-CIO member has gained 80 cents per hour in economic benefits since the last adjustment in dues, what part of the economic gains received by the worker does he contribute to the Union to pay the higher dues?

A. The average UAW member gained 80 cents per hour, which is equal to \$138.40 per month based upon a 40-hour week with no overtime. The one dollar dues adjustment will require UAW members to pay to their Union one dollar per month out of an average \$138.40 gain per month.

Q. How does the worker's contribution to the Union compare to his gain on a yearly basis?

A. The average UAW member's yearly gain since 1946 on a straight-time basis is \$1,669.80, out of which the dues adjustment will require the worker to pay \$12. No other investment would yield a worker a gain of \$1,660.80 in one year from a \$12 investment.

Q. How does the \$2.50 dues compare to what the dues were when the UAW-CIO was first started?

A. In the early days of our Union, the average wage was less than 50 cents per hour and the dues \$1 per month.

Q. This means the average worker paid two hours' pay per month for dues in 1936?

A. That is right. Workers paid two hours' pay in dues per month in the early days of our Union at a time when the Union was unable to give them any protection or any gains. In those early days, the UAW-CIO had no contracts, there was no seniority protection, no grievance procedure, no overtime provisions, no call-in pay, no night shift premium, no holiday pay, no vacation pay, no medical care programs, and no pension plans, but the workers paid two hours' pay per month in the hope of building a Union.

Q. Are the dues lower today than they were in 1936?

A. Yes. In 1936, the workers paid two hours' pay per month and today, even with \$2.50 dues, a worker only pays 83 minutes' pay per month in dues.

Q. How long does the average UAW member need to work to pay the one dollar dues increase?

A. With the average rate of pay of \$1.80 per hour in our industry, the average worker must work one and one-half minutes per day in order to meet the cost of the dues increase.

Q. How do UAW-CIO dues compare with those of other unions?

A. UAW-CIO dues are still lower than most other unions. The CIO Communication Workers (whose members receive lower wages than do the members of the UAW) met in convention in Grand Rapids, Michigan, during the same week the UAW Convention was meeting in Cleveland, and the delegates to the Communication Workers Convention voted for \$3 dues.

The United Mine Workers of America members pay dues of \$4 per month. In addition, they have numerous special assessments, one of which was recently levied in the amount of \$20—\$5 for four straight pay periods.

Q. Can the UAW-CIO levy International assessments in the future?

A. No. Under the new Constitution that was adopted at the Cleveland Convention, no Interna-

tional assessment of any kind can be levied by the International Union.

Q. Does this mean that the \$12 emergency strike assessment collected in 1950 cannot be levied in the future?

A. Yes. The \$12 emergency strike assessment and also the regular \$1 assessment have been eliminated. When a member pays his \$2.50 per month dues, he has met his full obligation as far as the International Union is concerned.

Q. Is it true that since all International Union assessments have been eliminated, a member paying \$2.50 per month dues will pay the same in the future as he paid during 1950?

A. That is correct. With the exception of Chrysler workers, who were on strike, UAW members paid during 1950 \$18 in dues and \$12 in the emergency strike assessment, which together equalled \$30, or an average of \$2.50 per month.

Q. How is the \$2.50 divided between the International Union and the local union?

A. The International Union receives 95 cents, of which five cents is set aside for the Auto Worker, three cents for the education fund, one cent for recreation fund, one cent for the fair practices fund, 10 cents for CIO per capita tax, and 75 cents for general administrative purposes.

The local union receives \$1.15, of which three cents is set aside for education and recreation, and \$1.12 for general administrative purposes.

Ten cents is to be used for citizenship funds, five cents each to the International and the local union funds.

Q. For what purposes does the International Union spend the 75 cents which goes into the general fund?

A. This fund is used to meet the operating cost of the Union, to pay telephone bills, telegraph, printing, office help, legal services, transportation, staff, etc.

Q. Has the cost of operating the Union gone up?

A. The Union has the same cost-of-living problem that every worker and his family has. No worker could support his family and meet 1951 prices if he was still getting the same wages he received in 1946. The Union cannot meet increased operating costs and pay 1951 prices on 1946 in-

(Continued on page 9)

Reuther's Keynote Opens Great Convention

The Convention is convening at perhaps the most crucial period in world history. There is great fear and uncertainty in the world. Hundreds of millions of people are wondering what the next 12 years are going to bring, whether the world will have war or peace.

We in America and in Canada, because we live in the strongest of free nations of the world, have a double responsibility in this period when free men and free institutions are being challenged by the forces of aggression throughout the world.

And we in the organized labor movement have been saying for a long time that the struggle between tyranny and freedom, the struggle between Communism and Democracy, is a struggle for men's minds, their hearts and their loyalties, and you cannot win that struggle if you fight only on the battlefields. If we are going to make freedom secure and really stop the forces of the Communist tyranny, then we have to fight against poverty and hunger and insecurity with the same devotion with which we fight against Communist aggression on the battle fronts.

Communism has perfected the techniques of exploiting poverty and hunger, and when people are hungry and when they are destitute you cannot fill their empty bellies and their empty hearts with pious slogans. We have to meet the practical challenge of the world where mankind for the first time has got the tools of production to conquer poverty and hunger and insecurity. We have to demonstrate that we are going to fight to use those tools to abolish poverty and hunger.

DEMOCRACY'S BULWARK

Anyone who knows anything about Communism and the problem of fighting Communism will have to arrive at the conclusion that we have arrived at—that the free labor movement of today is Democracy's strongest bulwark against Communism. In every nation in the world where there is a strong, powerful trade union movement with the will and the courage to fight to win a full measure of economic security and social justice for the workers, Communism is weak. But in other countries where there are not free labor movements, where the great mass of people are denied economic and social justice—in those countries Communism is strong.

The free labor movement has forgotten more about the practical fight against Communism than the Wall Street boys will ever know, because we are fighting it where it counts.

The fight we have is to prove to other peoples in Asia, in Europe, in South America, in Africa, and all over the world—where people are struggling for freedom and for social justice—that in the kind of world we are fighting to build it is possible to have both bread and freedom. Freedom without bread is slavery, mockery, and bread without freedom is slavery and mockery. You have to have both bread and freedom and we must sell that idea to the world by tangible and practical achievements.

That's what the UAW-CIO is all about—security and dignity and happiness for people, for you and me and our children so they, in their day, will struggle to carry the ball ahead in the eternal struggle to make progress for people. To the extent that that struggle bears the fruits of practical achievement—to that extent we shall strengthen the forces of freedom in the struggle against Communist tyranny in the world.

The UAW-CIO can be proud of its short history. We have written some of the most glorious pages in the history of the American labor movement.

FIFTEEN YEARS OF PROGRESS

In three weeks, in the latter part of April, we will celebrate the fifteenth anniversary of the birth of our Union at its First Constitutional Convention in South Bend, Indiana, in April, 1936. We have come a long way since those days when less than 10,000 workers were in our Union all over the United States and Canada.

Yesterday Brother Mazey told me that he got a report from his office, that in the month of March, 1951, 1,264,451 people paid dues in the UAW-CIO.

We meet today as the largest, most militant, and I think the most democratic free trade union in the world.

In 1936, when we organized our Union we had no contracts. There was one collective bargaining agreement in the whole state of Michigan. We had no seniority agreements. We had no grievance procedure and we had no over-time provisions. I remember the first job I had in Detroit back in 1927. I worked at the Briggs Waterloo Plant on the night

shift, and I worked 13 hours every night for 21 nights in a row, Sundays and holidays, and not one penny overtime. We didn't have holiday pay and we didn't have night-shift premiums in those days. We didn't have pension plans and we didn't have hospital-medical plans.

But we had faith.

We had faith in the workers and we had faith in the cause of unionism and we believed that if we found a way to get the message of unionism to hundreds of thousands of workers in these great mass production industries we could build a Union, and we did. Now, while we have made great gains, all of us know that collective bargaining is not something you finish at the end of any given contract session. Collective bargaining is a part of a never-ending struggle in which workers band together, pool their strength and will and their devotion and their loyalties to win a fuller and richer life for themselves and their families. It is a great human crusade. To the extent that we keep up the pioneering crusading spirit that made possible the sit-down strike victories and the struggle through the years, we can continue to march forward to greater and greater gains for the workers whom we have the privilege of representing.

TOOLS TO DO THE JOB

The question of the needs of this Union, the question of providing the tools necessary to finish the work ahead is a matter which transcends politics. It is just like a grievance, or it is just like the problem of a worker trying to feed a family on too little income. You can play politics with that problem all you want, but you will not solve it by playing politics. You cannot find political answers to basic trade-union needs. You have to find trade-union answers to trade-union problems.

No one can argue, no one with any sense of honesty, can argue that a worker in 1951 can feed his family and pay his bills on 1946 wages. If that is true, then by the same logic, we must conclude that the Union can't operate in 1951 with 1946 income. That is a matter of simple ABC economics, and no amount of political double-talk will change the basic economics that confront us in this period.

We need money for the Union because without that money we cannot do the job of protecting the bread and butter and the job security of a million and a quarter workers who rely upon this Union for such protection. We cannot finish the job ahead unless we have tools to work with, and we cannot struggle unless we have weapons to fight with.

\$200 A MONTH PENSIONS

We have the problem of competitive shops, hundreds and hundreds and hundreds of competitive shops. Ask the boys in Fruehauf who have lost their jobs; ask the boys in Reynolds Spring; ask the boys in Motor Products; ask the boys in dozens and dozens of plants where they are losing work to unorganized shops because the rates are 50 and 60 and 80 cents an hour less than in their organized shops. Ask them whether they have a problem!

The boys in the foundry industry will tell you what will happen to them if we do not organize the unorganized foundries. It is the same with skilled trades workers and office workers. We have the same problem in Canada. This is a matter of self preservation.

I am confident that as we face this period of challenge this Convention will rise above politics and will demonstrate a sense of responsibility to the people back home, and will leave with the Union at this Convention the tools necessary to carry out and complete the job ahead.

TEAMWORK IN LEADERSHIP

We have made great progress since the last Convention, and I want to thank the other officers and the Executive Board members for their cooperation and teamwork. We said in Atlantic City we were going to have teamwork in the leadership and solidarity in the ranks. That was the combination that could give us the power to move forward. I say we have done that.

We have won for almost a million workers, since the Milwaukee Convention, approximately \$125 a month pensions, when they are too old to work and too young to die. And the real significance of our pension is not in the \$125. The real significance lies in the fact that we have started to build this social security program on a solid foundation. Not one single contract in our Union, except maybe one or two with very small companies fails to provide for a complete funded program in which every worker's pension is guaranteed for the rest of his life.

No other union in America took on that fight; no other union was willing to hit the bricks over the basic principle of funding; but we knew that funding was the key to the program that would guarantee a worker a pension for the rest of his life. A pension that can be taken away from you after you have retired is no security.

The Chrysler management knew what we were fighting for. I say every worker in this Union knows that he is indebted to the Chrysler workers, because they struggled to nail down the funding principle that guarantees our pensions.

Not too far down the road I expect to have an opportunity of standing before a Convention and saying that the membership of the UAW-CIO now has \$200 a month pensions in every contract.

We have to fight to lower the eligibility rule. We have to fight to get vested rights and the ability to transfer credits. The guaranteed funded program is the key to these other matters, because when the money is in a trust fund you can win these other things much easier.

Our fight in this field of social security has not been for our members alone. We have fought for all the people. And the UAW more than any other organization in America is responsible for the fact we broke the legislative log jam in Washington where for 12 years we could not get increased social security. Industry was blocking increased social security legislation, and we said to them, "Either you go along in Washington, where you pay only half of it, or we will make you pay all of it through collective bargaining." We did not convert them because they thought there was justice on our side; it was conversion through the pocketbook.

COMPLETE HOSPITAL CARE

We have hospital-medical care provisions in contracts covering a million and a quarter workers which provide that the companies pay from one-half to the total cost of hospital-medical care for the worker and his whole family. It is not going to be too far down the road until we report to a Convention that every worker has complete hospital-medical care paid for entirely by every corporation. When we fight in Washington for social legislation, the big insurance companies, who are tied in with America's corporations, are down there fighting to block our legislative program and all progressive legislation.

These great insurance companies, like Metropolitan, Prudential and John Hancock are all tied in with General Motors and Ford and Chrysler, and I say they are getting hundreds of millions of dollars in profits out of the workers of America. We ought to put a stop to that. And I hope this Convention will authorize the Executive Board to set up a non-profit UAW-CIO insurance company to take care of our own insurance problems.

FOUR WEEKS' VACATION PAY

On vacation pay we have made great progress, but there again we have just begun to fight. We got 120 hours in many contracts. The eligibility requirements are too high, but we have 120 hours. That is a long way from where we were back in 1936 and 1937. Go back and look at those contracts. They didn't even mention vacation with pay. We have come from \$10 and ten hours to 40 hours, 80 hours, 120 hours. And I have been saying that if the executives in the front office who don't do any manual work are so exhausted they need a month's vacation, then the guys in the plant who do the work ought to have at least a month. And we are going to have that month.

GUARANTEED ANNUAL WAGE

And then we have got a job down the road which is perhaps one of the most important tasks that we have taken on. That's the job of winning a guaranteed annual wage.

We are prepared to mobilize our Union to win a guaranteed annual wage just as we won these other things.

This is not only a matter of economic justice for the workers. It is a matter of economic necessity, because we cannot hope to achieve full employment and full production and full distribution in a free economy unless we begin to get tools like the guaranteed annual wage with which to work.

We want to set up a study commission, and we are going to ask industry to do that if this Convention adopts this as our next major objective. We will start now to do the groundwork which must be done if we are going to work out a guaranteed annual wage plan in our industries.

We are going to serve notice far enough in ad-

(Continued on page 11)

Reuther Nomination Sets Off Convention Demonstration



Reuther, Mazey, Gosser, Livingston Team To Continue United Union Leadership

CLEVELAND—The team of top UAW-CIO officers which led the Union in its greatest period of progress has been returned to leadership for another two years.

President Walter P. Reuther and Secretary-Treasurer Emil Mazey were unopposed, and were declared elected by acclamation.

Vice-Presidents Richard Gosser and John W. Livingston overwhelmed token opposition, as did the administration-supported candidates for two- and three-year Trustees, King Peterson and Anna May Bond.

The vote in the contested elections:

Vice-Presidents	
Richard Gosser	7793
John W. Livingston	8461
John Begg	718
Dave Moore	321
Walter Rogowski	923
Three-year Trustee	
King Peterson	8028
Jack Thompson	166
Patricia McLean	1183
Two-year Trustee	
Anna May Bond	8018
Wm. P. McCartney	1132
Edward G. Tilma	123

Reuther Had Urged Board's Creation

WASHINGTON—A top board to pound out fair and workable mobilization policies was recommended by UAW-CIO President Walter P. Reuther at the United Labor Policy Committee conference March 21 and also in an interview published in *U. S. News and World Report* April 6.

"We fought a war against the superman theory; we should not now rely on any one man to develop the policies for a mobilization that may have to continue for a generation," Reuther said. He proposed that such a Board include responsible representatives of labor, farmers, management, and the public. The Board's policies would be applied by a director, just as, for example, when C. E. Wilson was president of General Electric, he applied the policies formulated by GE's Board of Directors.

President Truman's National Advisory Board on Mobilization Policy may either work in this direction or become window-dressing for continued domination of mobilization by Wall Street.

The outcome depends not alone on the four labor members, but finally upon the informed and aroused opinion and demand of the American people.

All incumbent Regional Directors were returned to office, with the exception of Region 1C Director Donnel Chapman, who was not a candidate for re-election. Chapman was succeeded by Robert Carter of Flint.

The new Board is listed below:
 Region 1—Michael Lacey and Norman Matthews
 Region 1A—Edward Cote and Joseph McCusker
 Region 1B—William McAulay
 Region 1C—Robert Carter
 Region 1D—Leonard Woodcock
 Region 2—Patrick O'Malley
 Region 2A—Ray Ross
 Region 2B—Charles Ballard
 Region 3—Raymond Berndt
 Region 4—Pat Greathouse
 Region 5—Russell Letner
 Region 6—C. V. O'Halloran
 Region 7—George Burt
 Region 8—Thomas Starling
 Region 9—Martin Gerber
 Region 9A—Charles Kerrigan
 Region 10—Harvey Kitzman
 The new Board will meet in Detroit May 7.

UAW-CIO ECONOMIC GAINS

SINCE 1946

WAGE INCREASES

1946	18 1/2 Cents
1947	11 1/2 Cents
1948	13 Cents
1949	11 Cents
1950	
1951	5 Cents

59 Cents

OTHER ECONOMIC GAINS

HOSPITALIZATION—INSURANCE—
 PENSIONS—HOLIDAYS—IMPROVED
 VACATIONS—INCREASED VALUE SHIFT
 PREMIUMS—WAGE INCREASES FOR
 SPECIAL GROUPS.

21 Cents

total 80 Cents per hour

x 173 working hours per month

\$138.40 gains for one month

\$1.00 dues adjustment out of gains of \$138.40

The above chart, which was distributed to Convention delegates, shows the relationship between workers' gains since 1946 and the modest amount voted to build and strengthen the Union so that the same kind of progress might continue. Convention delegates' reaction: "Never did so little an investment pay such high dividends."



Mazey gives the Convention delegates some historical and current facts during the dues debate.

Mazey on the Dues Increase:

The \$1.50 dues that we levied at the March 1946 Convention is worth \$1.06 in purchasing power today. The 65 cents per month per capita tax that was levied at the 1946 Convention is worth 46 cents today in terms of purchasing power.

In order to regain the purchasing power that our \$1.50 had in March, 1946, it would be necessary for us to raise our dues to \$2.12 a month, just to regain that purchasing power.

Our Union has not been immune to runaway inflation and to a general cost-of-living increase. Every time we win wage increases in the shop for our members, every time we win a pension program or a medical insurance program, our labor costs are increased.

We have had to grant wage increases. We have given our office employes a cost-of-living increase. We have given them insurance benefits. We have worked out a severance pay pension agreement.

The cost of every phase of our operation has increased. It costs more money to print our publication, the *Auto Worker*. It costs more money for printing leaflets. It costs more money for supplies.

We pay more for telephones, for telegraph, for travel—we maintain 53 Regional and sub-Regional offices in various sections of the United States and Canada. We are spending more money for rent than we ever spent before in the history of our Union.

Our obligations to the balance of our labor movement have also increased tremendously. Our per-capita taxes to National CIO have now been doubled. They are ten cents per month per member.

Our local unions are faced with exactly the same cost-of-living increases that the International Union is faced with. Our members need additional service. We have many workers in our jurisdiction that are still unorganized.

We have unorganized competitive shops that are threatening the very lives and jobs of our membership. We have plants running away from the high wage areas into the backwoods of America and Canada, taking jobs away from our members.

We also need an adjustment in our income to be able to more adequately and properly take care of the members of our Union when management forces us into strike situations.

Employers force us into strike situations for two basic reasons, in my opinion. First, if they believe that they can destroy and smash our Union, they will force us into a strike to do that job. The second reason we are forced to strike is that management believes that if they can get us on a strike and that we are inadequately able to take care of the needs of our members, that economic pressure, hunger and want and sacrifices will force our membership to accept compromise settlements that will not give them what they are entitled to.

I say that the best way to minimize our strikes and the best way to stop many of the costly strikes that we have had is to build an adequate strike fund so that we can properly take care of the men and women of our Union when management forces us into strikes.

In 1936, when many of us joined this Union, we paid a dollar a month dues and the only benefits we had out of the organization was the opportunity of getting fired and tasting tear gas on the picket lines and feeling the beat, in a tom tom fashion, of the cops' clubs.

Those of our members who paid dues in 1936 and '37 and '38 and '39 and '40 and '41 helped make possible the organization of the Ford plants in this country. The Ford workers didn't raise themselves by their boot straps. Their organization was the result of the efforts and sacrifices of thousands of members of our Union.

In 1937, we levied a dollar assessment to organize Ford. It was a Ford assessment. I was President of Briggs Local at that time and we collected a dollar from every one of our members.

Hundreds of members of our Union were arrested and thrown in jail because they helped distribute literature out at Ford. And in May of 1937, at the Gate 4 overpass at Ford's, the Ford thugs brutally beat President Walter Reuther, Dick Frankenstein, Bob Kanter and numerous others because we were out there trying to help the Ford workers get a union. I missed a beating by a few minutes because Ford servicemen arrested me and threw me in a Dearborn jail. The Dearborn Police Department and the Ford Service Department were one and the same thing in 1937.

The Ford thugs, on a second occasion, invaded the home of President Reuther and beat him in his home because of his efforts and the efforts of other members of our Union to help organize Ford. When the drive was intensified in 1940 and 1941, hundreds of our members participated in that drive to organize Ford workers. We had our volunteer organizers in practically every local union in the city of Detroit.

I worked on that Ford drive. I helped give leadership in organizing Ford workers, and our members in every local in this country gave assistance by paying assessments to organize Ford.

When the strike began on April 1, 1941, we called a meeting of all of the Presidents of UAW locals in the city of Detroit, and we said, "We are going to need assistance on that picket line. How many full-time people can you give us to do the job at Ford's?" and everyone in the cities of Toledo and Flint and Detroit and elsewhere responded. They sent out hundreds of people to help man the picket lines to give the Ford workers a union. **And I say, I am a little sick and tired of seeing cheap politicians come to this Convention who have a one-point program against dues, not in favor of organizing or political action or other things. All they are in favor of is getting re-elected. And I say that I am ashamed of some of the leadership of the Ford Local because, by God, your organization was made possible by people sitting in this room today.**

A dollar-a-month adjustment in your dues will cost you a little bit better than half a cent an hour. Those of you who got 80 cents an hour or more in benefits, can you afford to spend a half a cent of that 80 cents to make your Union strong and complete this job? You're damned right you can afford it.

Those of you that are getting 80 cents an hour based on an eight-hour day got \$6.40 more a day in benefits. Can you afford to spend 4.62 cents a day to help strengthen your Union? Of course you can afford it.

Those of you receiving \$32 more a week in increased benefits since 1946, can you spend 23.7 cents more a week in dues to help protect and advance the gains you have made? Of course you can.

Those of you who have had a monthly increase in your pay of \$138.40, can you afford one dollar out of that \$138 to protect and advance your Union? I say you can.

Those who have received \$1,600 more in benefits a year, can you afford to take \$12 from that \$1,600 to help protect your Union? I say you can afford it.

Our dues at \$2.50 a month cost just the price of half a package of cigarettes a day to maintain. But half the price of a package of cigarettes will give you security and dignity and pensions and medical insurance and all these other things that we have won.

Our chief difficulty is some of the people in this Convention—and not very many of them, thank God—take the position that the most important thing is to get re-elected. I say the most important thing is what is good for our Union. And we should put the interest of our Union ahead of personal interest.

Convention Committees

In accordance with the provisions of the International Constitution, the International Executive Board appointed the following Convention Committees:

CONSTITUTION COMMITTEE

- Roy England, Chm. Local 200
- Harry Southwell, Secy. Local 174
- Carl Moore Local 1106
- Joe Ivy Local 390
- Frank Gallagher Local 681
- Marshal Hughes Local 1027
- Joe Douglas Local 287
- Mike Maxin Local 72
- Anna Pastuszka Local 29

CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE

- Blaine Marrin, Chm. Local 157
- James B. Ogden, Secy. Local 909
- Robert Hancock Local 594
- Charles Zimmerman Local 526
- Joe Berry Local 600
- Dewey Younts Local 87
- Stanley Green Local 127
- Albert J. Mattes Local 239
- Walter S. Park Local 663

RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE

- Ken Morris, Chm. Local 212
- Miles Loyd, Secy. Local 550
- George Ekola Local 600
- Louis Mattox Local 12
- James Schuetz Local 501
- Jim Desmond Local 599
- Burt Foster Local 45
- Robert J. Winters Local 626
- William Stockton Local 148

GRIEVANCE COMMITTEE

- Don Rand, Chm. Local 360
- James O'Rourke, Secy. Local 600
- Ernie Love Local 1058
- Edward Burroughs Local 856
- Neil Moorlag Local 5
- Harold Johnson Local 600
- Edward Wilms Local 300
- John Wilse Local 65
- Robert Slater Local 255

OFFICERS REPORT COMMITTEE

- Malcolm Evans, Chm. Local 49
- John Brady, Secy. Local 222
- L. J. McPherson Local 596
- James Ryan Local 12
- James Feehey, Jr. Local 25
- Arthur DePietro Local 901
- Dewey McGhee Local 600
- John Novak Local 992
- Louis Ferris Local 735

RULES COMMITTEE

- Ed Behrens, Chm. Local 941
- Thomas Nolan, Secy. Local 1020
- Clyde Lowe Local 215
- Roy Colore Local 664
- Art Grudzen Local 3
- Sam Siermarco Local 598
- Leo Shaffer Local 163
- John Allston Local 81
- William Gerbe Local 51

COMPETITIVE SHOP COMMITTEE

- Harold Wilson, Chm. Local 652
- Archie Miller, Secy. Local 867
- Robert Brown Local 1059
- James Jackson Local 539
- Ernest R. Wade Local 10
- Charles Sanders Local 49
- William Brown Local 186
- Lester Whittaker Local 974
- Leonard McPherson Local 490

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

- Tony Valeo, Chm. Local 180
- Bob Davidson, Secy. Local 435
- Nelson Fritsch Local 217
- Aubrey Durant Local 247
- George Fansell Local 817
- Albert Mussilli Local 400
- Harold Rathert Local 819
- Raymond Kay Local 227
- Mildred Szur Local 174

Reuther on the Dues Increase:

What is the question before this Convention? The question before this Convention is, do we need better tools to do a job that must be done?

I remember the day I went up to Flint. I didn't have a referendum of the membership to see whether I would build a barricade in the Chevrolet plant. We didn't have five per cent of the Chevrolet workers with us, but we went in there and we built a union. And when I went over to Miller Road in those dark days when we faced Harry Bennett's gangsters I didn't say, "Well, I won't get out there. We are going to have a referendum vote of the rank and file first." We never would have had a union.

Leadership is what we need in this thing. What is leadership? Does a fellow who claims to possess the qualities of leadership, the integrity, the spiritual values that we talk about say, "Tell us, boys, where you want to be led and I am your great leader, I will lead you?" No. You sit down and you look at the facts and you analyze those facts.

And nobody in this Convention can deny the simple fact that a worker cannot live in 1951 with 1946 wages, and neither can this Union. Nobody disputes that. But they give all kinds of arguments about referendum, the rank and file has to be consulted.

Brothers and Sisters, the minute you admit that the Union needs more money to buy better tools you are morally and organizationally obligated to support a dues increase so we can get those better tools. And when you try to hide behind the rank and file you are not being honest with yourself and you are not being honest with the people back home.

Talk about being afraid of the rank and file—I have to face the rank and file. I do face the rank and file. I face them when they are in the picket line. I stand on the platform. I talk to them more than any man in this Convention. In the last year, I have talked to 250,000 of the rank and file in strike meetings and in meetings all over this country.

Don't worry about the rank and file, because I have found every time when the chips are down, you can count on the membership. But you have got to give them the facts. And if we pass this dues increase here and we go back home and explain the need, the membership will accept it just as they accepted it in 1946.

But the politicians in the 1946 Convention said, "Oh, wait until we get you at home. Oh, we're going to cut you off at the knees and make mincemeat out of you." But what happened? We stood up like a bunch of men down there and we increased the dues because we had to have it. And when we got back home there was no problem. There were no revolutions, because the rank and file today know that you can't do the job that must be done unless we have the tools to work with.

I am willing to work, as the other officers of this Union are willing to work. Yes, they talk about pork choppers. That's a popular thing. But I am the Number 1 pork chopper in this Union. But I joined this Union way back in the early days and I served on the International Executive Board for nine months and I didn't even get street car fare. I didn't cry about that, because I was doing what was in my heart.

So, the answer is not to kick a few people around you call pork choppers. The answer is to ask yourself the question, can we make this Union stronger? Can we do a better job for the rank and file? Can we fight their battles more effectively in Washington, at the bargaining table, and every other section where we must wage this fight to win these noble things we talk about? Ask yourself the simple, honest question, can we do those things better if we have better tools? And the answer is yes, and everybody in their own hearts knows it is yes.

I say if the answer to that question is yes, then we have no choice but to take the step in this Convention to do that job.

I'm willing to work night and day as I do in this Union. I don't ask for a medal. I don't ask for a bonus. I don't ask for anything excepting better tools to work with if you want to help do the job for the guys back home. That's all I want.

When the General Motors workers were on strike, I said to my wife, "I want to go before those guys and I want to say to them, 'Brother, we're fighting for a basic principle. Tighten your belt. Tell your wife and your kids you are sacrificing for an ideal.' "But," I said, "I want to be able to tell those General Motors workers to sacrifice with a clear conscience," and I said to my wife, "I'm not going to take any pay during this strike because I want to sacrifice with these workers."

I did that in the Chrysler strike and I'll do it in every other major strike. I am not fighting for my pork chops. I don't care what you do about me, because I am in this thing for what is in my heart, not for what is in my pocketbook.

But I am not bargaining for Walter Reuther. I am bargaining for my Union. And, if I am asked to fight General Motors and not compromise, if I am supposed to sit in Washington and fight the battle there and not compromise, then by all the strength that God gave me I am not going to compromise here. I am going to fight for what we need.

What do you want me to do? Do you want me to sit on the street corners with a tin cup and beg for the money we need? That isn't the way you build a labor movement.

My dad tells me that we have got a pink tea party today compared to what the old timers used to have. And yet we are afraid to ask for one and a half minutes' more pay for the Union a day.

Brothers, let's don't sell our membership short. We have got the best rank and file in any union. What they need is leadership, and the place to give them that leadership is right in this Convention, and the time is right now. Give us the tools and we'll do the job.



103. © 1951 CARL STAMWITZ
"Now you can see why good union officials must be rather thick-skinned!"

Guaranteed Annual Wage Set As Union's Major Goal

CLEVELAND—The winning of a guaranteed annual wage throughout the industries in the UAW-CIO's jurisdiction is the next major goal of the Union, delegates to the Thirteenth Constitutional Convention declared.

The resolution adopted without dissent by the more than 2,200 delegates declared:

"That we apply ourselves to the challenging task of gathering the basic economic data and preparing our position to support our demand for a guaranteed annual wage.

"That we instruct the incoming officers and International Executive Board to call upon representatives of management to join with our Union in the establishment of a labor-industry annual wage commission to study all possible ways and means of achieving a guaranteed annual wage that reflects equity for all workers and protects our basic contract standards.

"That we call upon President Truman to create a commission composed of equal representation from industry, labor, agriculture, and the public, to make a study of the problem of achieving a guaranteed annual wage throughout the American economy, and to work out recommendations to facilitate

the establishment of annual wage payment plans as part of our nation's efforts to achieve the objectives of the Full Employment Act.

"That in order to clear the way for effectuating the guaranteed annual wage, we proceed immediately to work for amendment of state unemployment insurance laws, where necessary, to permit supplementation of benefits under guaranteed wage plans."

In stating the need for a guaranteed annual wage, the resolution said:

"The most fundamental long-range economic problem faced by people in a free society is to find a way to maintain full employment and full production, balanced by full and equitable distribution of wealth created.

"It is tragic that we have learned to solve the problem of unemployment in war, forging the weapons of destruction, but as yet we have not been able to provide jobs for everyone pro-

ducing the things for a good life in peace. In 1939, we had approximately 9,000,000 unemployed, and in the early part of 1950 we had approximately 4,000,000 jobless. War and preparation for war solved the problem. Our basic problem flows from the fact that the tools of modern technology make it possible to create abundance, but the people have lacked the purchasing power to balance our productive power.

"America knows how to split the atom. It must learn how to feed people when there is enough to eat. We must learn how to provide a job for every adult able and willing to work, at wages geared to the wealth our economy is capable of creating. To find tools to do this job is part of the job of our Union. It is a challenge to the vision and imagination of free men in every phase of our economic life."

UNITED AUTOMOBILE WORKER

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION, International Union, United Automobile, Aircraft and Agricultural Implement Workers of America, affiliated with the CIO. Published monthly. Yearly subscription to members, 60 cents; to non-members, \$1.00. Entered at Indianapolis, Ind., November 19, 1945, as second-class matter under the Act of August 24, 1912, as a monthly.

Please send notices of change in address on Form 3578, and copies returned under labels No. 3579 to 2457 East Washington Street, Indianapolis 7, Indiana.

Circulation Office: 2457 E. Washington St., Indianapolis 7, Indiana
Editorial Office: 411 West Milwaukee, Detroit

WALTER P. REUTHER

President

RICHARD GOSSER and JOHN W. LIVINGSTON

Vice-Presidents

EMIL MAZEY

Secretary-Treasurer

International Executive Board Members

CHARLES BALLARD

RAY BERNDT

GEORGE BURT

ROBERT CARTER

ED COTE

MARTIN GERBER

PAT GREATHOUSE

CHARLES H. KERRIGAN

HARVEY KITZMAN

LEONARD WOODCOCK

MICHAEL F. LACEY

RUSSELL LETNER

NORMAN MATTHEWS

WILLIAM McAULAY

JOSEPH McCUSKER

C. V. O'HALLORAN

PATRICK O'MALLEY

RAY ROSS

THOMAS J. STARLING

FRANK WINN, Editor

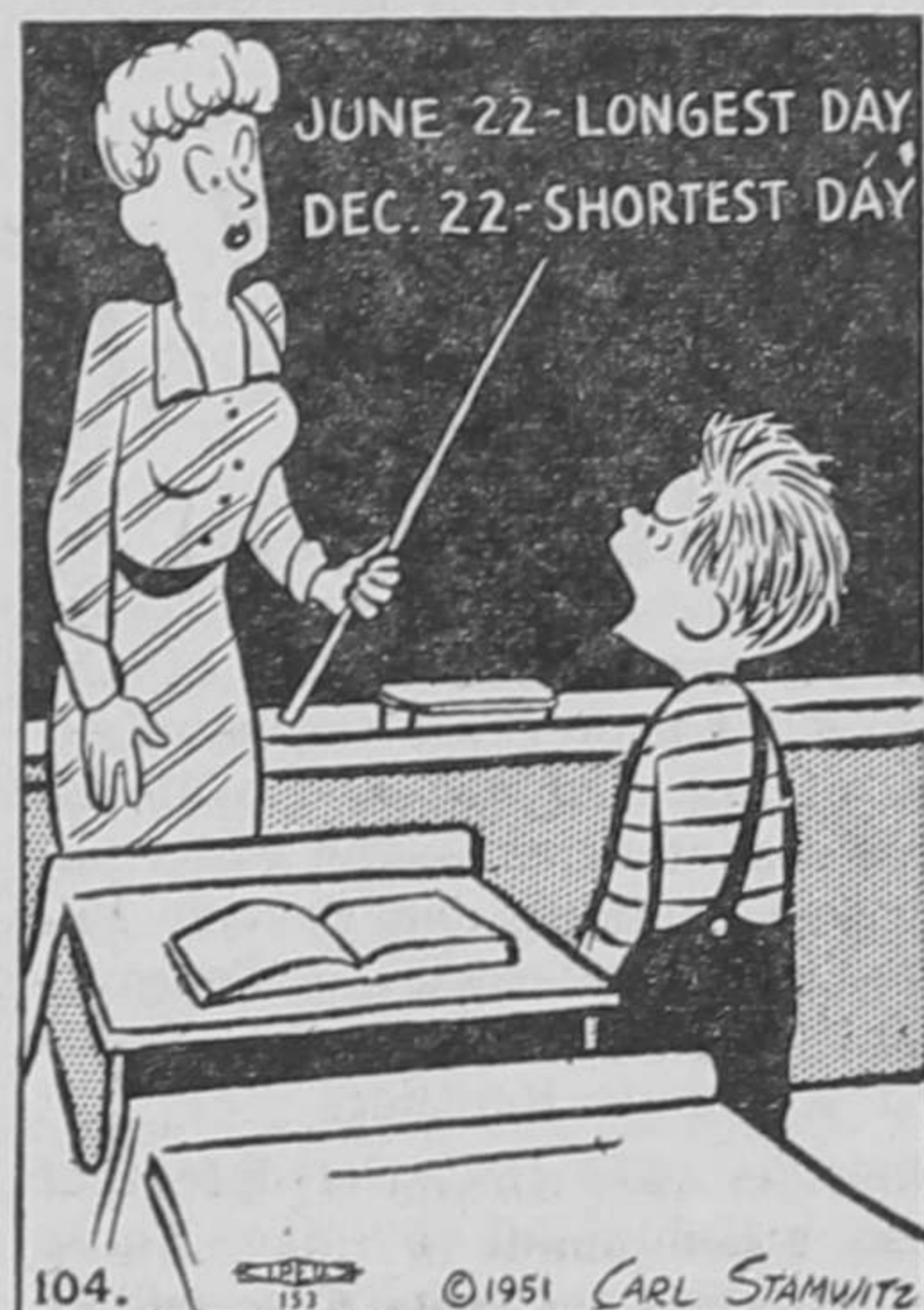
BARNEY B. TAYLOR, Managing Editor

CLAYTON W. FOUNTAIN, Associate Editor

Members, American Newspaper Guild, CIO



The nomination of Vice-President John W. Livingston for re-election by Delegate James Feeney of Local 25 also set off a long demonstration. Above, one of the parading delegates gets Livingston's autograph on his table sign.



"But my old man says that the shortest day nowadays is pay-day!"

Election Sought at Ford Aircraft

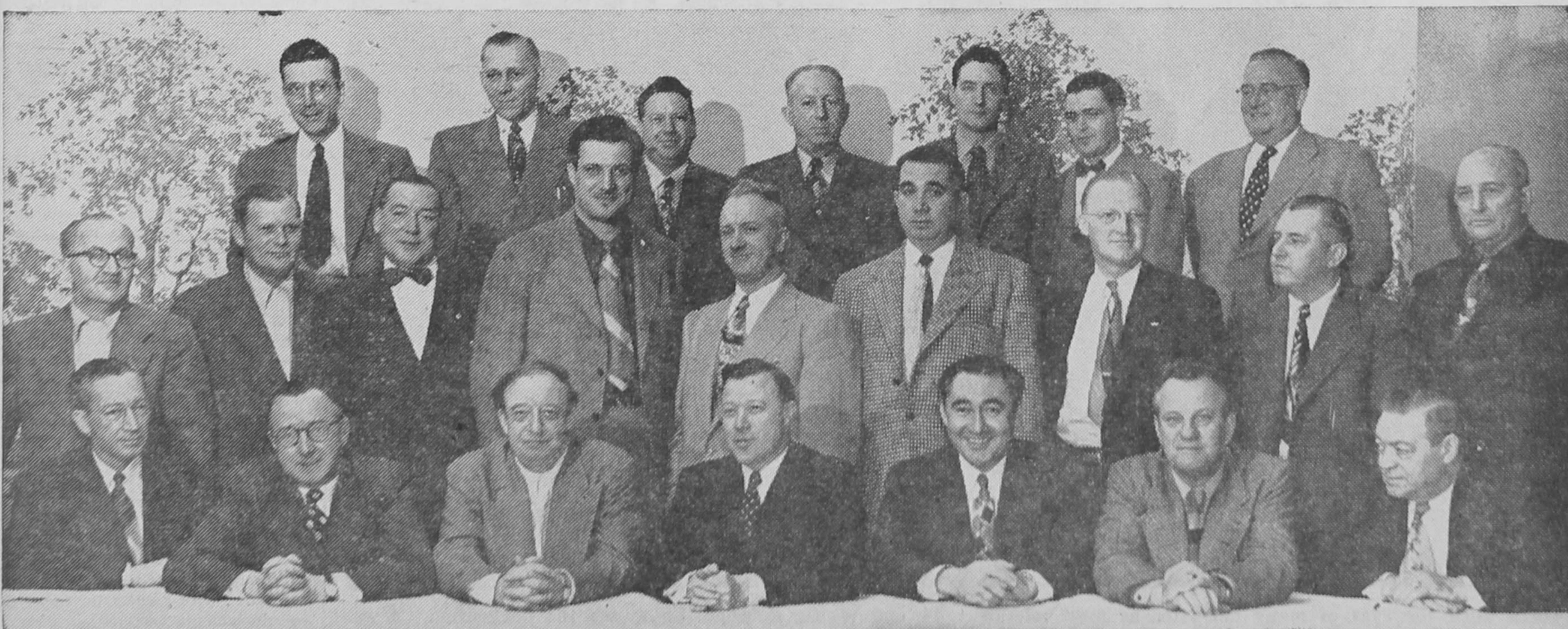
CHICAGO—Pat Greathouse, Director of Region 4, UAW-CIO, last month announced the filing of a petition for an NLRB election among all production and maintenance workers at the giant Ford Aircraft Plant in Chicago.

One of the most intensive organizing campaigns in union history is under way in Illinois, conducted by the UAW-CIO. The Ford plant, formerly run by Dodge during World War II, will employ 35,000 workers at full capacity.



Delegates parade across the stage to shake hands with Vice-President Gosser during a demonstration following his nomination for re-election. Gosser's name was placed before the Convention by Delegate Bill Healey of Local 12.

The UAW-CIO International Executive Board



Top row, from left: Leonard Woodcock, Harvey Kitzman, Pat Greathouse, Michael Lacey, Ray Ross, Robert Carter and Cyril V. O'Halloran. Middle row, from left: Edward Cote, Charles Ballard, Joseph McCusker, Martin Gerber, Patrick O'Malley, Charles Kerrigan, Raymond H. Berndt,

Norman Matthews and Russell Letner. Front row, seated, from left: Thomas Starling, George Burt, Richard Gosser, Walter Reuther, Emil Mazey, John W. Livingston and William B. McAulay.

"Political Independence" Wins Over "Labor Party"

UAW Honors Helen Douglas

CLEVELAND—Helen Gahagan Douglas, former California Congresswoman, was voted a lifetime honorary membership in the UAW-CIO Tuesday, April 3, after she had stirred the UAW-CIO Convention delegates with a moving appeal for the expansion of democratic values.

"Is this a crusade for freedom or is it another chance for a few greedy, short-sighted people to line their pockets with gold that they will never be able to spend?" asked Mrs. Douglas.

"It is time we turned back to first principles. There should be equal sacrifice in this crusade. I don't say that because I happen to be addressing a union. I say it because I deeply believe it. I say it because I don't think we can win any other way.

"More is at stake than just getting a few more dollars a day or a week. More is at stake than just holding down your rent with rent control. More is at stake than just seeing that the farmers still have the guarantee of parity. What is at stake is the purpose of living everything that has come down to us through the years.

"Are we to go forward to a period in the history of the world the like of which men could never even dream of before? Because at long last, in the years ahead, if we apply ourselves, if we do the job that is ahead of us thoroughly, there can be decent opportunity and a decent standard of living for all of the men on the earth.

"I say we won't be afraid, we the people, and we will choose the right men and women to lead us if again we go back to first principles. What do we believe in? What is this freedom from want, freedom from fear, freedom of religion, freedom of thought? What



Emil Mazey, Helen Gahagan Douglas and Walter Reuther at the Convention microphone.

does it mean in terms of daily living? What does it mean to the people of the world?

"You have made a great contribution as a Union. I congratulate you. This Convention is more than just a coming together to take the pulse of the times and to see what you offer for the next year. It is a great moral rallying point for the whole nation because the nation has come to look to the UAW for moral leadership.

"I thank you for the support you have given me always, in Congress and out of Congress. I thank you for my endorsement. Coming from a Union of your quality and your purpose it meant very much to me.

"And may I say that in the days and in the years ahead, if ever there is a real good scrap around that you think will promote democracy, send it a little further forward, extend freedom to a few more people, and, if I am not completely crippled and blind by then, will you send for me to come and fight with you?"

Funds Voted to Implement Union's Political Program

The 13th Constitutional Convention of the UAW-CIO, after a night session debate, passed overwhelmingly the majority resolution on political action calling for a rallying of "all labor, farm and liberal groups in an independent political action movement to establish a coalition of liberal forces that will oppose and defeat the Dixie-gop coalition of reaction." A minority resolution calling for the formation of a labor party was defeated.

The Union's political action program got a big boost when in another Convention action, the delegates voted for 10 cents monthly per capita contribution, out of the increase in dues, for local union and International Union citizenship funds. This money is earmarked for political education, registration drives, public information projects and implementation of the Union's political organization program.

The majority resolution also:

- Instructed the International Union officers to request the United Labor Policy Committee to call a representative conference of labor in the spring of 1952. This conference, it is proposed, will determine the political course of labor in the 1952 campaign and make plans for approaching other groups representing the plain people of America for the purpose of exploring with them the best means of advancing the welfare of the common people;
- Instructed the International Executive Board to expand the staff and broaden the activities of the Political Action Department of the Union;
- Stressed need for a continued program of comprehensive political education on basic issues affecting our people;
- Outlined the leg-work necessary for effective political action: "We must develop independent political action machinery in every Congressional District in which the UAW-CIO has membership. Special emphasis must be put on ward, precinct, block and neighborhood organization where our members can and should participate in the formulation of the program and selection of liberal candidates of ability and integrity."
- Urged local unions to contact other local labor organizations

through the CIO councils to establish joint labor committees for the purpose of promoting joint local political action.

The majority resolution was passed by an overwhelming vote of the Convention.

Both resolutions strongly criticized the Republican and Democratic Parties' failure to solve the basic social and economic problems of the nation, and hit sharply at President Truman and his Administration for having turned over control of our national defense mobilization to representatives of big business and Wall Street.

The minority resolution joined with the majority in urging intensification and expansion of the Union's political action program, and in setting up independent year-round-functioning political action machinery in Congressional Districts where the Union has membership.

Labor Party Voted Down

The minority resolution contrasted the success of the British Labor Party and the Canadian Cooperative Commonwealth Federation with the failure of the common people of America to solve their problems through support of the Democratic Party.

It called upon the United Labor Policy Committee "to convoke a representative congress of labor to take steps for the speedy formation of a labor party in preparation for the 1952 elections."

Delegate Bert Foster, President of Local 45 and a member of the Resolutions Committee, speaking in support of the minority resolution, said the workers in this country "will get a proper share when we elect people that owe allegiance to the workers of this country and not to any political hacks. . . ." Referring to the United Labor Policy Committee, Foster said, "If labor could get together on the economic field, why can't labor get together on the political field?"

Supporters of the majority resolution criticized the minority as impractical and unsound. They stressed the need for developing a realignment of political forces based on "cooperation and mutual confidence among farm, labor and all liberal forces" to build together a political action movement to oppose "the coalition of reaction."

Danger to Unity

Delegates speaking for the majority resolution warned that the effectiveness of the new United Labor Policy Committee would be endangered by an attempt to use it as a spearhead for the formation of a labor party.

President Reuther in his remarks supported the majority resolution and summarized the arguments against the minority report as follows:

"I think we can all agree both the majority and the minority resolutions criticize the old political parties, and that criticism is correct and it is justified. We are all opposed to political hacks and we are all opposed to corruption and compromise; but it is not a matter of principle that is being debated here in these two resolutions. The division is not in principle, it is in strategy, in tactics, and that is the key to the future development of American political power with respect to the labor movement. I say if you pass the minority resolution you will feel noble, but you will not advance the practical struggle to build labor's political power in America. Let us not be generals without an army.

Reuther Hits Dixie-gop Deal For Jim Crow

A statement on behalf of the UAW-CIO protesting the elimination of anti-violence and anti-Jim Crow amendments to the Universal Military Training and Service Bill has been forwarded to Congressional leaders by UAW-CIO President Walter P. Reuther.

Reuther said that the defeat of these amendments by the House Armed Services Committee and the subsequent approval by the Committee of the Winstead pro-segregation amendment "constitutes a repudiation of the President's Executive Order and program calling for equality of opportunity and treatment in the Armed Services."

Reuther ascribed the Committee's action to a "politically immoral deal between 10 or 12 Republicans and Southern Democrats."

The Real Reward



Tears filled the eyes of many delegates as four veteran union builders, now retired on pensions, were presented to the Convention. Above, from left, are: Emil Mazey; Richard P. Hirth, Local 626, Bristol, Connecticut, 68; Julia ("Grandma") Brozman, Local 697, Detroit, 78; Charles L. Bacon, Local 57, Fort Wayne, Indiana, 70; Walter Shaw, Local 600, Detroit,

74, and Walter Reuther. Shaw told the Convention, "I want to thank you for the security, independence and happiness my wife and I have. This is the happiest day of my life." Reuther responded, "That's our reward—to know we are making a contribution toward people's security, happiness and dignity."

Murray Calls UAW-CIO "Bulwark of Strength"

CLEVELAND—"Your organization is a bulwark of strength not only to the movement to which you are affiliated, the CIO, but it is indeed a great strength to the entire labor movement and, in fact, to our great country, the United States of America," said CIO President Philip Murray in an address to the UAW-CIO Convention on Monday, April 2.

After pointing up the problems thrust upon labor by the current world crisis, President Murray called for all-out resistance to Communist aggression. He said:

"I should like it to be understood that the CIO subscribes wholeheartedly in its support of our government in our national effort to develop adequate national defense. I should also like it to be known that the CIO unites with all of the liberty-loving people of the universe in our nation's fight against Communist aggression wherever it may raise its hand or head.

"It is the bounden, God-given responsibility of every free-thinking, independent American citizen to lend his effort in this common drive to beat back the Communist saboteur, the Communist dictator, the Communist aggressor."

DEFENSE POLICY

Then turning his attention to labor's struggle for democratic defense policies, President Murray declared:

"It is unfortunate that the structure of the defense mobilization organization in Washington is such that its complete control has been placed securely in the hands of a segment of the population that has no interest, or very little interest, in advocating the things to which you and I have already subscribed.

"To construct, build and develop a democratic system of national defense mobilization, it is reasonable to assume that the principal segments of the national population will be provided adequate representation on all policy-making agencies that have to do with the promotion of national defense. Unfortunately, the present structure of the Office of Defense Mobilization has not permitted the kind of representation that organized labor subscribes to.

"The organized labor movement is fighting for a bona fide, democratic system of true representation in the Office of Defense Mobilization. We are saying that the public, the farmer, business and labor should be adequately represented on the policy-making level in all of those agencies.

"This is not a labor fight; this is a struggle to protect our demo-

cratic way of living; Labor is not making a fight to run the defense mobilization agencies. Labor is making a fight to have all of these various groups of people who comprise the United States of America properly represented in the defense mobilization effort."

LABOR UNITY

President Murray then recited a factual description of labor's crusade to achieve a democratic defense program. He praised the work of the United Labor Policy Committee, saying:

"There has never been a time in the history of the United States when there has been evidenced a greater degree of unity than is presently manifested among the members of the United Labor Policy Committee."

"I am hopeful that out of the discussions which we are presently having with the representatives of the American Federation of Labor there will grow and develop a lasting, binding feeling of fraternal unity, a unity that will spell progress, a unity that will spell promotion of the people's welfare, a unity that will seek the perpetuity of all of our democratic institutions.

"And I am living in hope that there may eventually culminate some sensible degree of constructive national organic unity between the two great labor movements of the United States."

Nearing the end of his address, President Murray concluded it with these words:

"So, my good friend Auto Workers, you have gone through hell externally and internally. The time for putting your big feet squarely down among our nation is here now, and in a spirit of maturity, thinking out with considerate judgment all of the problems which we are required to pass upon in this Convention.

"I know that your judgments will be sound and that they will be obeyed and respected and that your legislative enactments in the period of this, your Thirteenth Constitutional Convention, will prove to be a boon to the cause of labor and to the cause of our great country."

Call for Labor Unity Sounds Good to UAW

"There is no division in the rank and file of labor—there should be no division among the leaders of labor," said the UAW-CIO Convention resolution on labor unity, adopted Sunday, April 1.

"A united labor movement would give us greater economic strength and broader political influence, and would enable us to make greater economic and social progress for all the American people," the resolution stated. "Efforts to bring about unity in the American labor movement must be accelerated, so that we may achieve organic unity on an honorable and constructive basis. . . ."

The resolution concluded as follows:

"That this 13th Constitutional Convention of the UAW-CIO instruct the International Officers and the International Executive Board to continue in every way possible to cooperate and work with the United Labor Policy Committee.

"That we instruct the International Officers, International Executive Board and local union

officers to continue in every way possible to encourage and increase our practical working unity at every level with the AFL, the Railroad Brotherhoods and bona fide independent unions with a view toward the development of organic unity out of joint action and joint struggle on the economic and political fronts,

"That organic unity, when achieved, shall be based on the acceptance of certain specific democratic trade union principles, including the recognition that any new organizational structure must give full and complete recognition to the principle of industrial unionism, and that the autonomous rights of international unions would be fully respected within the framework of the new national organization."

Officers, Reps Get Pay Raise

Officers, Board members and International Representatives were granted pay increases by the UAW-CIO Convention. On the two Constitutional amendments dealing with the question, the vote favoring the increases was more than 98 per cent of the delegates.

Under the new pay plan, which still leaves them among the lowest-paid among officers of larger unions, the officers will receive the following amounts:

- President \$11,250
- Secretary-Treasurer ... 10,750
- Vice-Presidents 9,250
- Board Members 7,750

This is the first pay adjustment since 1946, and the amount of increase is slightly less than the estimated annual gains of the membership since that time.

International Representatives will receive \$80 weekly starting pay, with automatic progression to \$100 after four months. The old pay scale was from \$70 to \$100, at the discretion of the Executive Board.

Minor department heads will get not less than \$100 nor more than \$110. Major department heads and key administrative personnel will receive not less than \$115 nor more than \$125.

On officers' pay, President Reuther told the Convention: "I do not care what you do about the salaries of the officers. I am not bargaining with this Convention. I worked a long time for nothing, and, as I said the other day, I am working for this Union because of what is in my heart, not because of what you put into my pocket-book."

BOARD CHARGES 5 DEERE MEMBERS

Five members of UAW-CIO Local 838, Waterloo, Iowa, were charged with conspiracy by the UAW-CIO International Executive Board, meeting in Cleveland.

Named in the Board's charges were: John L. Hild, Victor Kincaide, Duane Ransom, Clarence H. Lines and Gale Morrison, all of Waterloo.

The Board charged that the five had conspired with each other to commit and did carry out the following acts:

1. They converted large sums of money contributed for strike relief by the International Union to their own use;
2. They intimidated and coerced the membership of Local 838 into rebellion against the Union; and
3. They attempted to cause anti-union legislation to be enacted by the Iowa Legislature and the U. S. Congress.

By the several acts, the Board said, the five had violated several sections of the Constitution.

The filing of the charges, under the Constitution, means that those charged will be brought to trial and faced with possible expulsion if found guilty.

Earlier, the Board had placed an administrator over the affairs of the Local following an audit which disclosed widespread misappropriation of strike relief funds contributed by the International Union. The five members named in the Board's charges were found to have been among the principal beneficiaries. All held some official position in the Local Union.

UAW-CIO Region 4 Director Pat Greathouse, who had been named administrator by the Board, said that the latest act of the five—that of sending out the letter to legislators and others calling for highly restrictive and unfair legislation against unions—was "wholly motivated by vindictiveness and a desire to retaliate against honest Union men who caught them with their fingers in the pie."



Reuther pins Convention badge on CIO President Murray.

FACTS ON DUES *(Continued from page 3)*

come. The cost of all the things the Union buys has gone up just as the cost of all the things the worker buys has gone up.

Q. Will all of the increase in the income of the Union be used in the increased cost of operation?

A. No. A part will be used to meet increased operating costs. A part will be set aside in a reserve fund to meet any emergency period in the future, and a part will be used to expand organizational activities so that the wage standards and the job security of the organized workers will not be threatened by the low wage standards of unorganized workers.

Q. Is the problem of low wages in unorganized shops a serious one?

A. It is one of the most serious problems facing our membership. Completion of the organizational work is a broad and better problem as far as our membership is concerned, for as long as unorganized workers perform similar work at wages from 50 to 90 cents an hour less, the job security of our membership is threatened. While the UAW-CIO has organized more workers than any other union, our job is still not completed. There are hundreds of small shops in small towns where wage rates are from 50 to 90 cents an hour lower than those received by UAW-CIO members.

Q. Is the organizational problem just one of competitive shops?

A. No. There is also the problem of run-away shops where companies such as Motor Products, Reynolds Springs, Fruehauf Trailer and others have moved their plants in an attempt to get away from high wages and union working conditions. There is also a problem of decentralization on the part of big companies such as Ford, General Motors, and Chrysler who are opening up new plants all over the country.

Q. Has the war emergency made the problem in competitive shops and decentralization more serious?

A. Yes. The problem is becoming more serious since industry is expanding, and if we do not complete the organizational work during the period of the emergency, greatly expanded productive capacity of unorganized plants will seriously threaten wage standards and the job security of our membership when the emergency is over. One dollar per month additional investment in our Union will provide the Union with the tools to do this organizational job and will protect the wage standards and the job security of our membership.

Q. Will the increase in dues strengthen the Union's ability to carry forward other parts of the program?

A. Yes. The Union will be in a stronger position to work on every phase of our program. On the collective bargaining front, we will be better equipped to work on a guaranteed annual wage, improved vacation pay, increased pensions, improved hospital-medical care, for better working conditions, against speed-up. The Union will be stronger in its work in Washington for effective price control, a fair tax program, civil rights and FEPC, and to defend our wage contracts against an attempted wage freeze.

Q. Did the Convention vote the officers an increase in salary?

A. Yes. Despite the fact that the officers stated at the Convention that they were not interested in a salary increase, the Convention by a 98 per cent majority voted to increase the salaries of the officers by \$1,250 per year.

Q. Is it true that the International officers had not received an increase since 1946?

A. Yes. It is true that the International officers had not received any increase in salary since March of 1946.

Q. How do the salaries of the UAW-CIO officers compare with the salaries of officers of other unions?

A. The salaries of officers of the UAW are modest by comparison with other unions. This is as it should be, for we believe firmly the salaries of union leaders should not be high, and that they should have a reasonable relationship with the wages received by the membership.

The following comparison between UAW-CIO salaries and salaries paid by other unions will illustrate this point.

Organization	Membership	Presidents' Salary	Sec.-Treas. Salary
UAW-CIO	1,250,000	\$11,250.00	\$10,750.00
United Mine Workers	450,000	50,000.00	40,000.00
United Steelworkers-CIO	1,000,000	25,000.00	15,000.00
Textile Workers-CIO	350,000	16,000.00	12,500.00

Radio Coverage of Convention Great Success

It wasn't until delegates returned to their homes in Michigan, Indiana, New York, Maryland, Ohio and Canada that the full value of the Guy Nunn broadcasts of the 13th Constitutional Convention was felt. Then a chorus of praises greeted returning delegates as the people back home expressed their great appreciation for bringing the major Convention decisions to them each evening.

"I almost felt as if I were there," one UAW member said. Another exclaimed, "You don't need to convince me of the dues increase; I heard Emil Mazey's speech on WDET and I believe it was the greatest speech Emil ever made."

For five days of the Convention, Guy Nunn, UAW-CIO Commentator, edited the most significant actions of the Convention and packaged them in a 15-minute program which was broadcast on 12 stations throughout the country.

Another 30 minutes of Convention excerpts were carried on WDET so that FM set owners in Southeastern Michigan could hear 45 minutes of the Convention each day. A complete list of the stations carrying the 15-minute programs follows:

- WDET-FM—Detroit
- CKLW—Detroit
- WMIQ—Iron Mountain, Mich.
- WJEJ—Hagerstown, Md.
- WBIW—Bedford, Ind.
- WJPS—Evansville, Ind.
- WBNY—Buffalo, N. Y.
- WUSJ—Lockport, N. Y.
- WITB—Baltimore, Md.
- CKLB—Oshawa, Ontario
- WFDR-FM—New York City

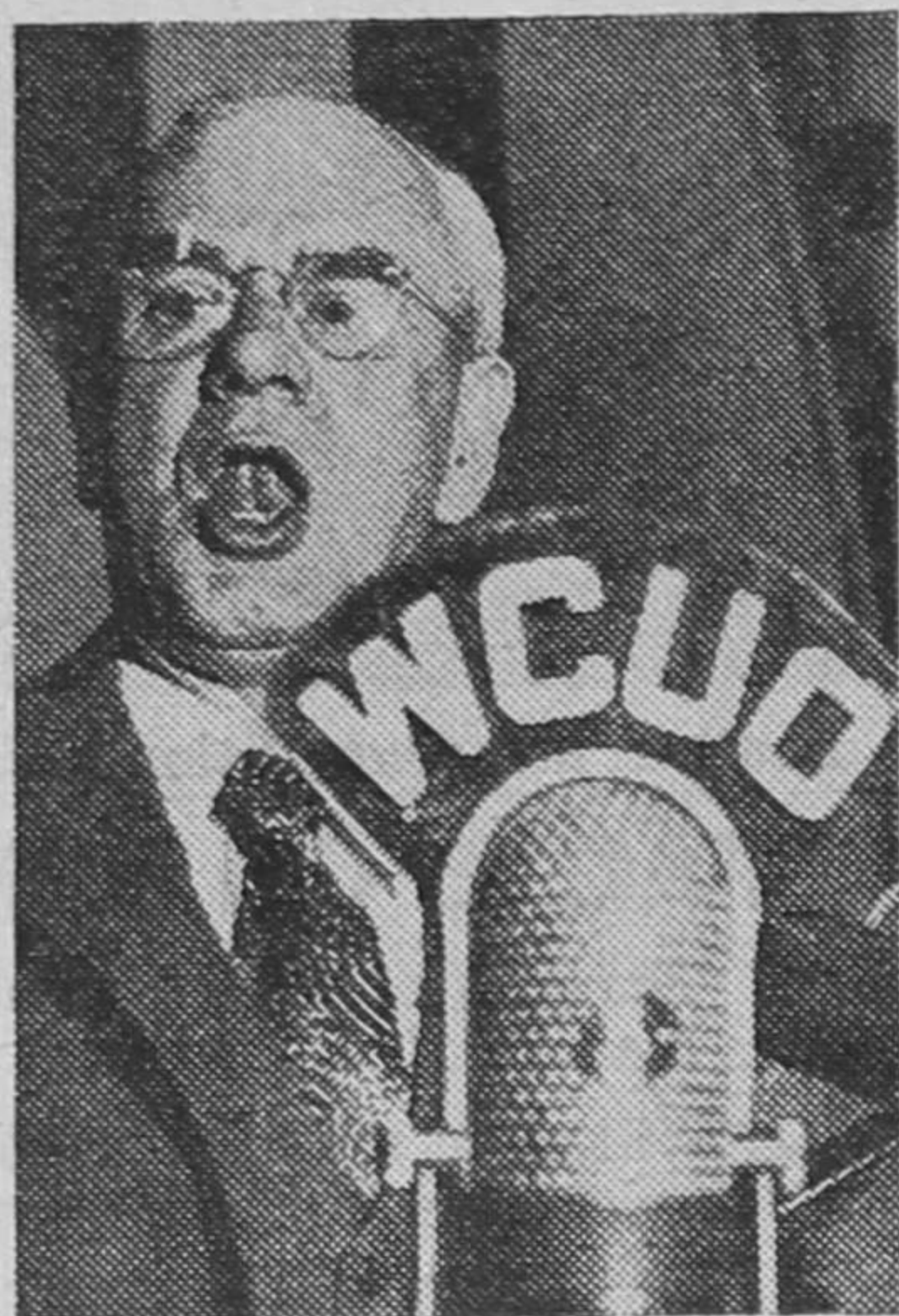
The UAW-CIO Radio Department would like to express its appreciation to the following local unions and their officers for their splendid cooperation in making arrangements to have the Convention broadcasts carried in their communities. William Hilger, Local 686; Aft Schultz, Local 222; Alex LeGault, Local 952; Arthur Trabut, Local 344; Walter Haydn, Evansville Industrial Union Council; L. M. Danner, Local 440, and all UAW-CIO locals in Buffalo, New York.

In some instances public service time was secured by the local unions, in others such as Buffalo and Baltimore the local unions purchased the time for the broadcasts.

Accent on Labor



ACCENT ON LABOR is the weekly radio show sponsored by the Pontiac Industrial Union Council every Sunday at 12:15 noon on WCAR. Above moderator, Adora Kisshauer announces local union news items before introducing one of **ACCENT ON LABOR**'s many guests which have included Nat Weinberg, UAW Research Director, Harry Markle, Director, Michigan Unemployment Compensation Commission, and local union participants Bob Hancock, Tom Flood, Charles Oswald and Dixie White.



Philip Murray, honored Convention speaker said, "It is the bounden duty of this great movement of ours to dedicate its life to the establishment of universal freedom and universal peace for all of the peoples throughout the world."

WFDR Awarded Guild "Oscar"

WFDR-FM has been awarded one of the nation's most coveted citations—the Page One Award of the Newspaper Guild of New York City for its "liberal stand."

The award was made by the Page One Award Committee because of WFDR's "consistent position championing liberalism and labor's rights, for its adult, liberal approach to the field of radio and for its responsibility to the public."

Other Page One Awards were made to Sid Caesar, Tallulah Bankhead and William Faulkner.

WFDR is owned and operated by the International Ladies' Garment Workers-AFL and is one of the key stations in the liberal-labor network of co-op and labor FM stations.

Typical of WFDR's public service programming was its complete coverage of the Washington Kefauver Committee hearings. It was the only New York station to air the Committee's final sessions in Washington.

Region to Air Dues Debate

As part of its extensive educational program on the action of the 13th Constitutional Convention in adjusting UAW-CIO dues, Region 1D is planning a series of radio programs in Bay City, Saginaw, Grand Rapids and Muskegon, Leonard Woodcock, Regional Director, announced as the *Auto Worker* went to press.

The broadcasts will feature the speeches of UAW President Walter Reuther and Secretary-Treasurer Emil Mazey on the need for the dues adjustment and the remarks of National CIO President Philip Murray on this question.

Other regions or local unions interested in securing the dues adjustment decision for use on radio or at local union membership meetings may order this 30-minute program by writing the UAW-CIO Radio Department, 411 W. Milwaukee, Detroit 2, Mich. A charge of \$7.50, plus postage, will be made for the program. Please specify whether you wish tape or disc recordings. If a disc is required, indicate speed at which you wish the recording made.

WCUO Airs Proceedings

There had been no plans to carry the entire Convention proceedings live on Station WCUO, UAW FM outlet in Cleveland, according to Ralph Wallace, station manager. The reason—simply that of cost.

The first day of the Convention the station carried the full proceedings, including the report to the delegates by President Walter P. Reuther. But when the station cut off floor debate from the air on Monday, WCUO telephone boxes lighted up like a Christmas tree with angry calls from listeners urging that the full Convention sessions be broadcast.

After a couple of such experiences, Manager Wallace, despite the increased cost to the station, acceded to the insistent demands of Cleveland listeners and the remainder of the five days of the Convention were carried in full on the UAW station.

This coverage was the most extensive in the history of the Union and follows the UAW policy of making its deliberations as widely known and understood by the general public as possible.

Manager Wallace praised the engineering and program staff of WCUO for their cooperation and untiring efforts in making the Convention broadcasts possible.

In addition to this heavy load on the station staff, many delegates visited the station during their stay in Cleveland, some with requests for recordings for use on their home-town labor programs. One of these was the Pontiac Industrial Union Council which recorded interviews with Board Member William McAulay and Council President Tom Flood. Numerous other recordings for the "Voice of America" were also made.

NABET Joins CIO Family

Newest member of the growing CIO family is the National Association of Broadcast Engineers and Technicians which received its charter from National CIO recently.

NABET represents engineers and technicians on most major radio and television stations and networks. Both UAW-CIO FM stations, WCUO in Cleveland and WDET in Detroit, have contracts with NABET.

"We are pleased and proud of our affiliation with CIO" Dave Stewart, Detroit Chapter President and member of the NABET Executive Board, said. "We are confident that our association with CIO will enable our organization to accelerate its organizing campaign in many sections of the country where radio station employes have clamored for organization, but because of our limited resources as an independent union, we were unable to meet their requests for assistance."

During the past year NABET has conducted, under the leadership of Brother Stewart, a successful organization drive in Michigan. All stations in Detroit with the exception of WXYZ (IBEW) and WJR (non-union) are now covered by NABET contracts, as are stations in most of the industrial centers in the state.

NABET will be officially welcomed into the Michigan CIO at its June 3 Convention when International Union Executive Secretary, George Mayer, will address the convention. NABET's goal with the aid of the CIO is to extend its organization benefits to the 75,000 workers in radio and television throughout the nation.

Nunn Praised By Local 212

The Executive Board of Local 212, UAW-CIO, has commended the International Union for its sponsorship of Guy Nunn's week-night broadcasts and asked their continuance.

The Local's resolution stated "these broadcasts bring news that union people and other citizens cannot get through other news broadcasts or the daily newspapers . . . these broadcasts are not censored by big business and bring out facts that would not normally be given to the public. . . ."

Nunn received the praise of the Local because "he pulls no punches in giving the news as the facts warrant and makes comments on the news regardless of threats made by underworld characters."



The Korn Kobblers are drawing enthusiastic mail from WDET listeners.

Heard at six o'clock Monday through Friday, the Korn Kobblers are sponsored by the Lasky Furniture Stores located at 14260 Gratiot and at 13300 Joseph Campau.



Convention delegate Andy Agullana (right), Local 489, UAW-CIO, records a message for shortwave broadcast by the Voice of America to Asia. Interviewing Brother Agullana is Liston Oakes (left), Director of Voice of America Labor Broadcasts. WCUO Engineer Frank Benyo (in background) recorded more than 20 similar messages of UAW-CIO Convention delegates for shortwave broadcast to Poland, Germany, Austria, England, France and other countries throughout the world. The UAW-CIO radio stations frequently cooperate with the Voice of America in preparing broadcasts by UAW members on democratic unionism, and the program of the labor movement in the United States.

Language Programs Draw Big Audience

The Italian and Ukrainian news and music shows on WDET, 102 on FM dial, are continuing to receive appreciative letters from Detroit listeners.

Mrs. Lena Uberti, producer of the Italian program, states that most letters praise "Italian Melodies" heard at five o'clock Monday through Friday afternoons for its excellent music and dignified presentation.

The Ukrainian half-hour which follows is under the direction of Nicholas Shustakewich.



"Remind me to tell you a funny story . . . on your time."

You Can Still Order Convention Broadcasts

Five 15-minute highlight programs of the UAW-CIO Convention proceedings suitable for radio broadcast or local union membership meetings are still available. Cost \$5.00 for each recording.

Also available is a 30-minute discussion by Walter P. Reuther, Emil Mazey and Philip Murray of the dues increase. Cost \$7.50, plus postage.

Place orders with the UAW-CIO Radio Department, 411 W. Milwaukee, Detroit 2, Michigan.

Reuther's Keynote Speech

(Continued from page 4)

...nce so that the corporations have to be ready when we come to the bargaining table. You know, every member of our Union has a very practical problem. They have got to eat by the year and they have to live by the year. I say this Convention has to serve notice that we are not going to stop until we get paid by the year, because that's the only solution to that basic problem of eating by the year.

FULL EMPLOYMENT

The most difficult unsolved problem that free men see in the world in which we live is the achievement of full employment in peacetime. In 1929, we had 12 million unemployed in America. In 1939, after the New Deal had been priming the pump for years, we still had nine million unemployed. Adolph Hitler solved that problem, because we put the unemployed to work making the weapons of war. We got over that crisis and in 1949 we had four and a half million people unemployed. Now Joe Stalin, because he carries out his program of Soviet imperialism, is creating full employment in America. Again we have to make the weapons of war.

We say to the people of America: "We are going to fight and fight and fight until we find a way to put people to work making the good things of life just as well as we are able now to put them to work making the weapons of war."

Why can't we? The problem is purchasing power. The people have needs, but they do not have the money to satisfy those needs and that is why we get in trouble. All of the basic wage policies of the UAW are directed to solution of getting into balance our ability to create wealth and our productive power, with our ability to consume the wealth we create by having adequate purchasing power. That is why in 1945 in General Motors we talked about a wage increase without a price increase. Time after time when we won a wage increase they took it away in higher prices. In ten years your Union won 66 cents an hour in higher pay, but at the grocery store we only won six cents in purchasing power. Sixty cents of that 66 cents was paid to the workers in the wooden nickels of inflation. That is why in May, 1950, we decided to renegotiate the cost-of-living escalator clause and the annual wage improvement clause in the General Motors' Contract, because we believed that inflationary pressures were going to drive the cost of living up, and we were right.

UAW CONTRACTS SOUND

We were right in our basic assumption, and because we did the job we did, the GM workers got a 19-cent package the first of June. They got another nickel in September; they got three more cents in December; and they got another nickel in March, making a total of 32 cents in nine months. And the end of the road is not yet in sight. I say that there is at least eight cents due in June—four cents cost of living and four cents annual improvement. That will mean 40 cents an hour in a 12-month period. We can say without fear of contradiction that no other union in a comparable period in the history of the American labor movement has won that kind of gains for the number of workers that we represent.

We know that the cost-of-living clause doesn't give you any more purchasing power. It just protects you. We know that the four-cent annual wage improvement is not enough. We know we are entitled to much more than four cents, but the principle is there upon which we can build in the future. And, brother, principles are more important than a couple of pennies, because if you win principles you can build on those principles in the future. That is the basic wage strategy of our Union.

FIGHT TO DEFEND OUR CONTRACTS

The fight of labor in Washington transcends the interests of labor alone. This is a fight for all the American people. We are fighting for wage earners, for farmers, for consumers generally. We are fighting for people who are living on fixed incomes. Yes, we are fighting for the wives and the kids of the servicemen who are trying to make ends meet on their inadequate service pay. And to the extent that we associate our struggle with the needs of all the people—to that extent we shall be successful.

We are not fighting the government. We are fighting big business which is trying to take over the government. They are trying to do through the back door what they could not do through the front door at the ballot box in 1948.

They passed a price control law which you and I know and every American housewife knows is a fraud upon the American people.

The whole program in Washington is to make the little guys pay the whole bill. The rich are getting



Catherine Welch, a delegate from Muncie, Indiana, plants a good luck kiss on the cheek of Walter Reuther during a demonstration which accompanied his nomination for a fourth term as President of the UAW-CIO.

richer and the poor are getting poorer. We know that the price of freedom is high and we are prepared to pay our share of the cost of defending freedom, but we insist that everybody pay his proportionate share. What we are really saying is that we have to cut down on the standard of luxury of the people who have too much before we cut down the standard of living of the people who have too little.

The little people are paying the same tax bill they paid in the last war, and a family with a \$500,000 income is paying \$40,000 less. Corporation profits are scandalous, and yet they are not paying their share of the tax bill. The government gives tax rebates and provisions to guarantee high profits, but the little guy is paying the bill.

Industry is trying to make the little people pay the cost of defending freedom. That's why the government has a ten per cent wage freeze. I say that freeze is unworkable and no matter how they dress it up, they are not going to get away with a ten per cent wage freeze in this period of profiteering and inflation.

FAT BOYS UNFROZEN

Just look at what some of the fat boys are getting in salaries. C. E. Wilson of General Motors in 1949 got \$586,000, and under the wage formula he can get a \$58,600 increase. That's a \$29.30 an hour increase on the basis of a 40-hour week.

And yet in Washington the Stabilization Board two weeks ago turned down a case in which a group of service employes in some of the buildings down there, who were getting 50 cents an hour, had negotiated a wage contract for a six cent an hour wage increase. They turned them down because it exceeded the ten per cent formula.

I say anybody who thinks you can defend morally or economically a wage policy that denies a worker a six cents an hour increase when he is getting 50 cents an hour and gives C. E. Wilson a \$58,000 increase when he doesn't need it, has something radically wrong with his mentality.

We are prepared to cooperate in the mobilization of all the power that America possesses and we are determined to fight against Communist tyranny and aggression with all our strength on the battlefronts.

Our record needs no defense. We have demonstrated a high sense of responsibility, and we are prepared to make our contribution. But we are not prepared to stand idly by and watch the profiteers take the American people through the wringer in this period of emergency.

NO NO-STRIKE PLEDGE

In the light of the scandalous profits, in the light of the fact that there is an attitude of complete disregard of basic responsibility in Washington and in the councils of industry, I think it would be tragic, dangerous, and unrealistic—it would be a disservice to the war effort—if organized labor in this period of profiteering and runaway prices would even remotely think of giving a no-strike pledge. I say we

have got to keep the right to strike as our only weapon to fight against injustice in America.

Now, you watch. They are going to try to pit the farmers and the workers against each other. We have to protect the farmers' right to a fair price and at the same time protect our position as consumers and wage earners. We are going to demand representation in the agencies of government.

POLITICS

We have to do a job on the political front. We have brothers who make a lot of noise in front of the local unions when prices go up. When they wrapped the Taft-Hartley Act around our neck, when they threatened our overtime, they cried, "Why doesn't the Union do something about these things?" And yet those same guys were sitting on their hands on election day and they didn't go out and vote.

We have to drive home the political facts of life. We have to fight economically and politically to carry on our programs. The worst political opponent American workers have is their own political negligence and their own lack of political consciousness.

We have the price control problem; we have rent control; we have to win a decent tax program, housing, social security, a national health bill. We need civil rights and FEPC; and, yes, we have to repeal the Taft-Hartley Act. All these things require political action. We need political action back home. That is where it counts.

I believe that we should take advantage of the tremendous labor unity we are getting in the United Labor Policy Committee. I know that it makes your hearts feel good to see a United Labor movement getting together.

We are making a beginning in this practical day-to-day labor unity, on the basis of which organic unity ultimately can be built. I believe we should try to get the United Labor Policy Committee to convene well in advance of the political conventions of the two major parties in 1952. We ought to get all of labor together in a big national labor political conference. Then we should look at the score in America and ask ourselves, "Where are we going and what can we begin to do to fight effectively on the political front?"

AGAINST SPEED-UP

Read our report on the speed-up problem. This speed-up problem is going to be with us always, because you cannot settle it today and keep it settled; it will come up tomorrow. It takes eternal vigilance.

I say we have fought on that front and shall continue to fight. Look at the record of this Union. The Harvester strike lasted 70 days. That strike was over the fundamental question of the right to strike on production standards during the life of the contract.

While we were fighting that battle and the Commies talked about Reuther being a sell-out artist, a phony and the Bosses' Boy; when we were fighting the International Harvester Company about this right to strike on speed-up problems—the Commie leadership of FE scabbed against our boys and went through the picket lines. That is the kind of phonies they are.

RECAPTURE CRUSADING SPIRIT

The struggle today is not a new struggle. It is the old struggle of the many with too little against the few with too much. It is the old struggle of human rights against property rights. It is the age-old struggle to establish the sovereignty of people over the sovereignty of profits. I want to be a part of that struggle inside the UAW because I believe with all my heart that the UAW is the most important force in the vanguard of the forces of free men in this historic struggle to build a new world.

Let this Convention rededicate itself to these basic human and democratic values. Let us recapture that crusading spirit we had in 1937 and in the other periods of struggle, and let us resolve to go out of here together, more united, more determined than ever to go forward with the tasks to which we have dedicated ourselves.

And, with the help of God, I say we can make a great contribution in the building of that better world where people can live in peace—where people everywhere can have a fuller measure of economic security and dignity and happiness, and where we can fashion the future in the image of freedom and give substance to the noble principle of the brotherhood of man.

LABOR TRIES AGAIN; REUTHER ACCEPTS PLACE ON NEW BOARD

WASHINGTON—Opportunity for a fresh start on mobilization has been opened up by President Truman with the appointment of the National Advisory Board on Mobilization Policy that includes UAW-CIO President Walter P. Reuther, in addition to CIO President Philip Murray, AFL President William Green, and AFL Secretary-Treasurer George Meany.

Two tough battles must be fought in the next 80 days, even if the Board functions as well as the most optimistic person could hope:

- 1) A cleaning up within the mobilization agencies by changes of basic policy and by personnel changes to insure participation by labor, farm and small business representatives. This house-cleaning includes the Economic Stabilization Agency, Wage Stabilization Board, Office of Price Stabilization, Office of Defense Manpower, National Production Authority, and Wilson's own top agency, the Office of Defense Mobilization.
- 2) The mobilization of nation-wide public opinion strong enough to persuade Congress to
 - (a) Amend the Defense Production Act to provide real instead of phony price and rent control and fair wage stabilization, and
 - (b) A fair tax law instead of the unequal sacrifice proposed in the Administration's tax recommendations and the worse proposals being urged by reactionary lobbies.

To win both battles, the United Labor Policy Committee will need the all-out effort of all affiliated unions, their members and families in getting the facts about the issues to the American people in time to generate and organize an irresistible public demand that both the administrative agencies and the Congress put the entire mobilization effort on the basis of genuine equality and sacrifice.

This two-phase fight of the next 80 days was described by the UAW-CIO Convention Resolutions Committee as the Union's Number One item of business between now and July 1.

Board activity started off in high gear at its first meeting April 9 and a second meeting April 12 on President Truman's work sheet, headed by wage stabilization, disputes and price control, to be followed in two weeks by advice to the President on proposed amendments to the Defense Production Act, expiring June 30.

Although the Chairman of the Board is Mobilization Director Charles E. Wilson, President Truman presided during most of the opening session. Members have been told that the Board is the President's advisor, not Wilson's, on mobilization policy.

If this turns out to be true in practice, if the Board is able to unsnarl the present mobilization tangle, and if its recommendations are promptly put into effect, it may be possible to work out solutions of the present crises in wage stabilization, price control, man power, taxes, credit, and the cutbacks, priorities and allocations involved in change-over from civilian to defense production.

And, with the same three ifs, the grave legislative crisis of the next 80 days will have better prospect for solution in the interest of people, not the profiteers who have coined and are still coining billions

out of the ten months' emergency since the attack on Korea.

But if the Board does NOT function, both crises can get worse fast.

The administrative and legislative crises are tied in with and are affected by division and debate over foreign policy in Europe and Asia. Unless solved, all of them work to the advantage of the Kremlin which, as stated in the UAW-CIO Convention, waits for an economic collapse here and among our allies.

A vital home front battle has begun for survival and victory by free men using policies and methods of free men. The labor members of the National Advisory Board on Mobilization Policy must have the rightness of their proposals supported by a rapid stepping-up of public demand, coming from all of labor and other groups of the American people, for the adoption and implementation of those proposals.

Without such a demand, neither the ULPC nor the labor members of the new Board can drive the coalition of profiteers out of firmly entrenched positions in the agencies and in Congress. With such a demand, a double victory over inflation and Communist hopes of our economic collapse is possible.



LABOR UNITY—This picture shows in practice the labor unity which was preached at the United Labor Conference in Washington of 700 AFL, CIO and rail brotherhood leaders from state and local levels. AFL President William Green is stressing a point to CIO President Philip Murray, AFL Secretary-Treasurer George Meany, and Walter P. Reuther, President of the CIO Auto Workers. (LPA)

New Housing Bill Assures High Rents, High Profits

WASHINGTON—Housing at \$125 a month and up, built with government mortgage guarantees for private profit, is to be provided for defense workers and others under the Defense Housing Bill passed by the Senate, April 9, with no quorum calls and no record votes either on amendments or the final vote.

The bill will underwrite housing at prices and rents workers can't afford to pay. Liberals voted for it, holding their noses as they declared it was the very bad best that could be got past the reactionary coalition that controls both Houses of Congress. Senator Humphrey (D., Minnesota) said it was "slightly deodorized" but "it still smells."

The bill provides:

1. \$1.5 billions to underwrite private construction of rental housing in the vicinity of defense plants;
2. \$10 million revolving fund to clear sites for resale to private builders of defense housing;
3. \$15 millions for loans for prefabricated housing (including trailers) for production and distribution in defense areas, no one person or corporation to get more than \$500,000;
4. \$50 millions for housing in isolated defense areas where after 80 days, private builders pass up the job;
5. \$60 millions for loans and grants for community facilities and services, such as water and sewer lines, schools, hospitals, clinics, and child day care centers in "critical" defense areas, but only after private and local and state governmental units prove inability to meet the needs.

Most of the bill is a new gravy train for mortgage bankers and builders, clearing ground for them at taxpayers' expense, guaranteeing them against loss and relieving them of responsibility for building housing in remote areas. All of the shamefully small total of 5,000 units of government-built housing is needed in Alaska alone. Trailer

manufacturers, who hired former Majority Leader Scott W. Lucas as their lobbyist, were given a ticket for the gravy train by an interpretation that classified trailers as housing.

The \$60,000,000 provided for community facilities is a drop in the bucket of need.

Following a demand for the bill's defeat and the enactment of a decent Defense Housing Bill made by CIO Housing Committee Chairman Walter P. Reuther, the Senate debate aired the scandal of profits before occupancy of up to 50 per cent by mortgage bankers and the banking and construction industry generally. Reuther said the so-called defense housing bill was mainly a renewal of an inflationary provision of the Housing Law—Section 608—which produced houses of minimum size and quality and of excessive cost.

In a slashing attack, Senator Humphrey said: "This is a matter of getting into the public treasury, not with a teaspoon, but with a scoop shovel. It is an effort on the part of certain persons . . . who have worried about the New Deal and the Fair Deal to give one of the biggest raw deals to the American taxpayers. . . . The breezes from the Potomac are not always filled with odor of cherry blossoms."

Senator Russell Long (D., Louis-

iana) who has made a vigorous effort to stop the abuse of the government mortgage insurance program, pointed out that some mortgage loans went as high as 150 per cent of costs, the 50 per cent being pocketed as profit by the lender and/or contractor before the house is occupied.

Senator Maybank (D., S. C.) said, "The old Section 608 was a disgrace."

Even conservative Senator Schoepel (R., Kansas) earlier had condemned the "loose, questionable practices which developed under the old Section 6, whereby a builder could take a mortgage for 100 per cent and perhaps do the entire job for 75 or 80 per cent."

The debate proved that profit grabbing is the main reason for excessive housing and rental costs. Under the FHA program this in turn contributes to the inflation of the entire real estate market and explains the fact that the 1950 census of housing showed an increasing number of families paying 35 per cent more of their income for rent, as pointed out to the Senate by Reuther. He estimated that the bill as reported to the Senate would result in the construction of housing units costing \$1 a month or more for an average family.

Senator Paul Douglas (D., Illinois) joining in the criticism of the abuse of FHA mortgage insurance, secured enactment of an amendment seeking to limit inflation of claimed costs of construction, by requiring contractor and builders to certify actual cost paid. No provision was made in the bill for holding down costs attempting to produce units within the reach of workers' incomes.

POSTMASTER. Send notices of change of address on Form 3578 (Canada, Form 67B) and copies returned under labels No. 3579 (Canada, labels No. 29B) to 2457 E. Washington St., Indianapolis 7, Ind.